Notice of Allowability 10/718,018 Examiner Tam D. Tran 2676 The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS		Application No.	Applicant(s)	
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All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith for previously mailed, a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-55) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon pelition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. ☑ This communication is responsive to papers received 11/20/2003. 2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.32. 3. ☑ The drawings filed on 20 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner. 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). **Certified copies not received: ☐ Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to limely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ☐ (b) ☐ including changes required by the Altice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached Learniner's comment Repartement sheets') must be submitted. (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the att		Tall D. Hall	2070	
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	of Biological Material	9.		

Application/Control Number: 10/718,018 Page 2

Art Unit: 2676

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

- 1. Claims 1-32, are allowed.
- 2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The closest prior art shows the method for identifying nodules in an anatomical volume segments a 3-D image volume by controlled voxel growth from seed points but does not disclose calculating a first attribute volume and a second attribute volume for the region of interest, the first attribute volume and the second attribute volume each comprising a plurality of voxels, each voxel being defined by a set of x,y,z coordinates and a data value; selecting a first set of voxels from the first attribute volume that have a data value within a first attribute data value range, the first set of voxels representing a preferred feature of the region of interest; selecting a second set of voxels from the second attribute volume that have a data value within a second attribute data value range, the second set of voxels representing the preferred feature.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is 571-272-7793. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **571-272-7778**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

Application/Control Number: 10/718,018

Art Unit: 2676

Page 3

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tam Tran

Examiner

Art unit 2676

Marthew C. Bella SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600